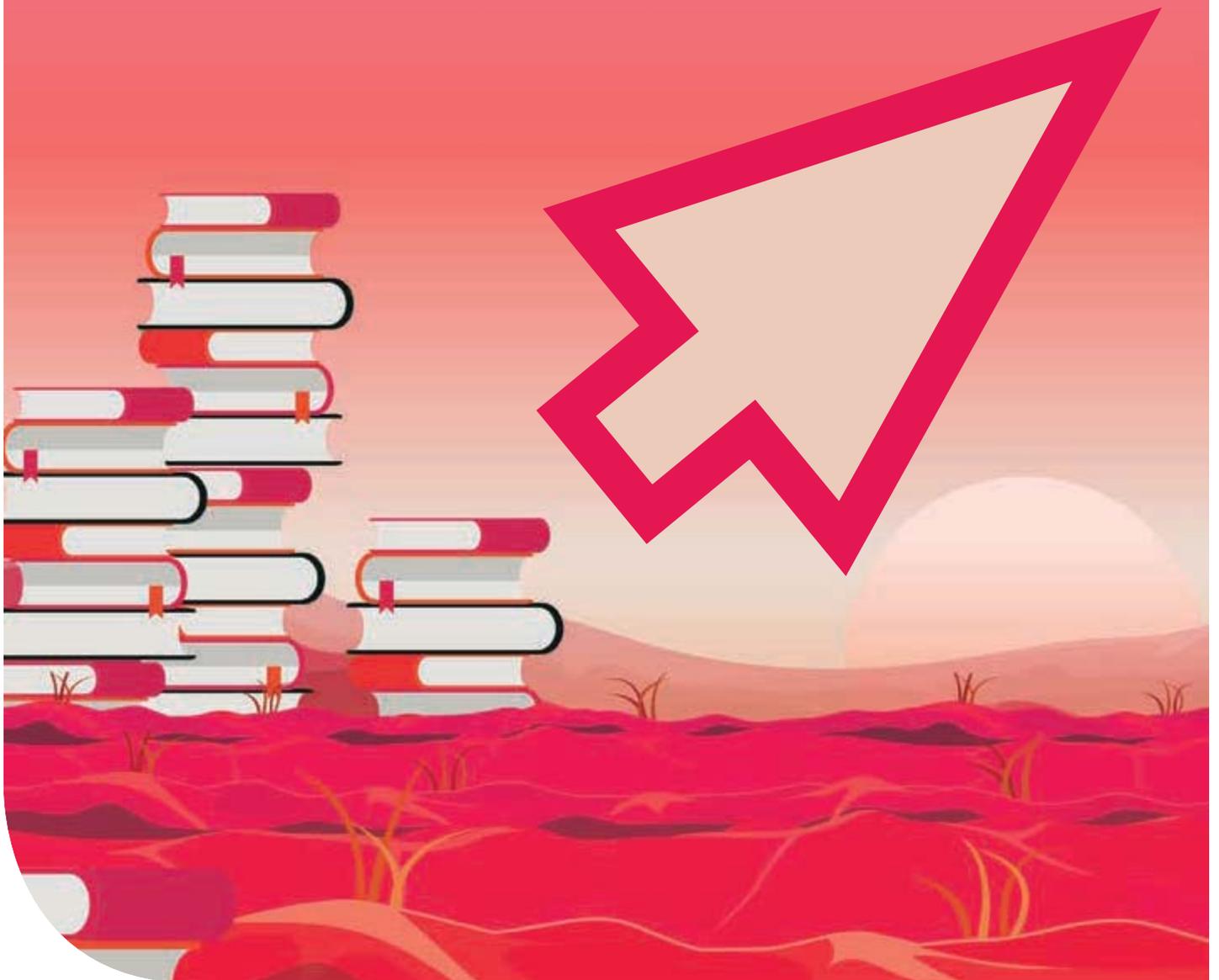# COPYRIGHT

RESOURCES
for School
Librarians

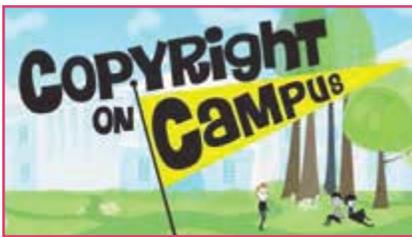**Yvonne M. Johnson**
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This article provides a collection of annotated citations for online resources of interest to school librarians; the focus is on copyright law, related information, and guidelines. The citations are organized by themes based on common issues. Copyright protects originally created works, including movies, recorded music performances, novels, photographs, video games, paintings, poetry, and more. This collection of resources offers a sample of information and materials available to school librarians as they work on copyright issues with students, teachers, and administrators.

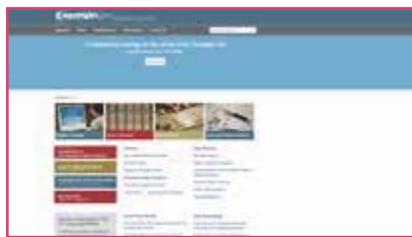## Copyright Defined

Copyright Clearance Center. 2010. "Copyright on Campus." <www.copyright.com/learn/media-download/copyright-on-campus> (accessed July 4, 2016).

This brief animated video provides an overview of copyright concepts, including attribution, ethics, fair use, and public domain as they relate to the educational use of copyrighted material. The concepts are explained in easy-to-understand language to assist educators with making appropriate copyright determinations for materials used in traditional classrooms and online learning management systems. Although this video focuses on higher education, the information is also applicable to the K–12 environment.

United States Copyright Office. n.d. <www.copyright.gov> (accessed July 1, 2016).

The U.S. Copyright Office examines and registers copyrights for authorship of various types of works. The site also provides basic copyright information, including definitions of copyright and fair use, as well as providing updates on current legislation related to intellectual property rights and international agreements related to copyright. If you use only one source, this is it!

Fair Use

Brewer, Michael, and the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy. 2008. "Fair Use Evaluator." <www.librarycopyright.net/resources/fairuse> (accessed July 1, 2016).

This site offers a tool that helps users make a U.S. Copyright Code "fair use" determination. A time-stamped PDF document is provided to the user as evidence to demonstrate that a good-faith effort was made to reach the fair use decision. The site also provides explanations of fair use, including the four fair use factors: purpose, nature, amount, and effect.

Crews, Kenneth D. [formerly of Columbia University], Dwayne K. Butler [University of Louisville] and Columbia University Libraries Copyright Advisory Office. 2008. "Fair Use Checklist." <https://copyright.columbia.edu/basics/fair-use/fair-use-checklist.html> (accessed July 1, 2016).

The checklist is designed as a tool for making a fair use determination based on the specific facts of individual situations. A copy of the checklist can be retained as evidence of a good-faith effort to make an appropriate fair use decision.

Permissions

Columbia University Libraries Copyright Advisory Office. n.d. "Asking for Permission." <http://copyright.columbia.edu/copyright/permissions/requesting-permission/model-forms> (accessed July 1, 2016).

A summary of detailed steps to follow to obtain permission to use copyrighted work is provided on this webpage.

Warlick, David, and Landmarks for Schools. 2003. "Permission Template." <www.landmark-project.com/permission1.php> (accessed July 18, 2016).

The Permission Templates are interactive tools that illustrate how teachers and students might communicate with authors of Web content to obtain permission to use copyrighted work.

Public Domain

Brewer, Michael, and ALA Office for Information Technology Policy. 2012. "Is It Protected by Copyright?" <www.librarycopyright.net/resources/digitalslider> (accessed June 28, 2016).

This site offers a copyright digital slider for those trying to determine whether or not an item is in the public domain. Directions for use are provided on the site.

Harvard Law School Library. 2016. "Finding Public Domain & Creative Commons Media." <http://guides.library.harvard.edu/Finding_Images> (accessed July 25, 2016).

Public domain and Creative Commons licensing are explained in this guide. To provide resources for educational projects and presentations, the site also supplies several links to images that are available in the public domain or with Creative Commons licenses.

Digital Media

Hobbs, Renee. 2011. "New! Model School Copyright Policy for Using Copyrighted Materials in Digital Media Production." <http://mediaeducationlab.com/new-model-school-copyright-policy-using-copyrighted-materials-digital-media-production> (accessed July 18, 2016).

This model policy is designed to assist educators and students by providing information and guidelines for the use of copyrighted materials, especially in the development of digital media productions that include photographs, music, film, or video clips.

Rathemacher, Andrée, Julia Lovett, and Angel Ferria. 2016. "Fair Use and Copyright for Online Education: Copyright." <http://uri.libguides.com/fairuse> (accessed July 18, 2016).

This site includes general information on copyright topics as they relate to online education. Examples and resources related to text, images, video, and sound recordings are provided to assist users when making copyright decisions about their Web-based course materials.

Stanford University Libraries. 2016. "Grading Teachers on Copyright Law—Videotaping for the Classroom." <http://fairuse.stanford.edu/overview/faqs/videotaping> (accessed July 18, 2016).

This site provides guidelines for taping educational television programs for use in classrooms. Also provided are the four fair use factors educators should consider when using copyrighted video.

Visual Resources Association. n.d. "Digital Image Rights Computator." <http://dirc.vraweb.org> (accessed July 1, 2016).
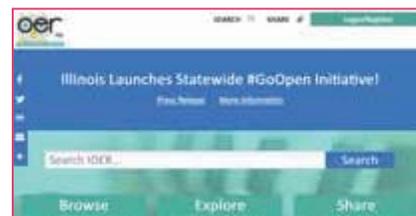
The program is designed to help users make copyright determinations for a specific image, work of art, designed object, or portion of a built environment. Users answer a series of questions that provide insight on generally accepted practices within the visual resources community. The site recommends that users have a basic understanding of copyright principles before using the Digital Image Rights Computator.

Open Educational Resources (OER)

Creative Commons. n.d. "When We Share Everyone Wins." <http://creativecommons.org> (accessed June 30, 2016).

Creative Commons makes available free, easy-to-use standardized licenses authors can use to establish the conditions under which others have permission to use the authors' creative work.
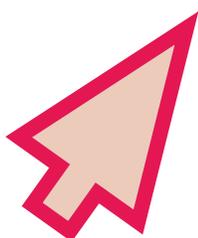

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and Illinois State Board of Education. 2016. "Illinois Launches Statewide #GoOpen Initiative!" <ilsharedlearning.org> (accessed June 27, 2016).

The Illinois Open Educational Resources website provides tools for curating, sharing, and creating career and educational resources. This example of a state-wide open resource exchange includes a variety of stakeholders, such as state leaders, school districts, educational technologists, workforce partners, and non-profit organizations, collaborating to share openly licensed educational resources.

United States Department of Education, Office of Educational Technology. n.d. "Open Education." <http://tech.ed.gov/open-education> (accessed July 1, 2016).

This website offers a "#GoOpen District Launch Packet" as well as technical resources, publications, and other information to encourage educators to use openly licensed educational materials for the purpose of transforming teaching and learning.

Sample K–12 Copyright Lessons

Electronic Frontier Foundation. n.d. *Teaching Copyright.* <www.teachingcopyright.org> (accessed July 1, 2016).

The Teaching Copyright website includes free lesson plans, handouts, supporting documents, and other resources to assist K–12 educators interested in teaching copyright concepts and ethical use of the intellectual property of others.

Joseph, Linda, C. 2015. "Copyright with Cyberbee." <www.cyberbee.com/copyrt.html> (accessed July 4, 2016).

The Adventures of Cyberbee site includes copyright resources for elementary and middle school teachers as well as an interactive tool that can be used for teaching students the basics of copyright.

Teaching Channel. 2016. "Exploring Copyrights and Wrongs." <www.teachingchannel.org/videos/teaching-students-copyright#video-sidebar_tab_video-guide-tab> (accessed July 25, 2016).

This short video presents an example of a copyright lesson for students in grades 9–12. Topics addressed include copyright guidelines, vocabulary relating to intellectual property, and application of copyright rules to research projects.

Teaching Channel. 2016. "Understanding 'Fair Use' in a Digital World." <www.teachingchannel.org/videos/teaching-students-fair-use> (accessed July 25, 2016).

This brief video includes a lesson for students in grades 6–8. The teacher explains fair use guidelines and connects the discussion to the use of video content. Students work in small groups facilitated by the teacher to apply fair use standards to digital content.
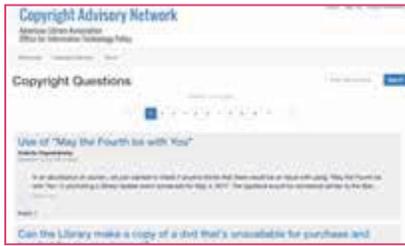

University of Rhode Island Media Education Lab. 2012. "Table of Contents, Teaching about Copyright and Fair Use." <http://mediaeducationlab.com/table-contents-teaching-about-copyright-and-fair-use> (accessed July 25, 2016).

The copyright and fair use curriculum developed at the University of Rhode Island (and supported by charitable foundations and the URI Harrington School of Communication and Media) addresses copyright and fair use. The curriculum is based on the Center for Media and Social Impacts' "Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Media Literacy Education." Lesson plans include activities and readings for high school and college students.

Resources for Librarians and Educators

Copyright Advisory Network, and ALA Office for Information Technology Policy. 2015. "A Community of Librarians, Copyright Scholars, Policy Wonks. Join Us." <www.librarycopyright. net/forum/page/1> (accessed July 25, 2016).

The Copyright Advisory Network Forum provides an avenue for librarians to ask copyright questions and to receive a response from a group of copyright scholars. The forum responses are considered informed opinions that do not constitute legal advice on copyright issues.
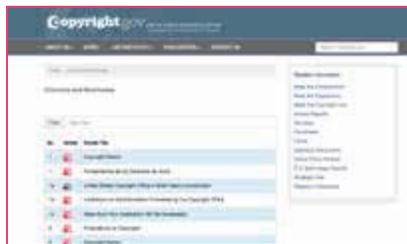

Movie Licensing USA. n.d. [homepage]. <www.movlic.com> (accessed July 25, 2016).

Movie Licensing USA works with the motion picture industry and sells public performance site licenses to K–12 school and public libraries. Annual site licenses and single-event licenses are available. These licenses permit public showing of movies but do not provide access to the movies themselves. The movies must be rented or purchased elsewhere.

Motion Picture Licensing Corporation (MPLC). 2016. "Frequently Asked Questions." <www.mplc.org/page/faqs> (accessed July 25, 2016).

The MPLC site includes FAQs related to the use of movies and audiovisual content and copyright regulations. To support copyright compliance the MPLC sells an Umbrella License for public performance of motion pictures and other audiovisual media. These licenses permit showing of movies but do not provide access to the movies themselves. The movies must be rented or purchased elsewhere.

United States Copyright Office. n.d. "Circulars and Brochures." <www. copyright.gov/circs> (accessed July 25, 2016).

The USCO site supplies free authoritative circulars and brochures related to a variety of copyright topics. Circular 21 addresses the use of reproductions of copyrighted works by teachers and librarians. Reproductions addressed in this circular include photocopying, videotaping, duplicating sound recordings, and taping off the air.

Conclusion

This article provides a sampling of resources that may assist school librarians, when confronted with copyright questions and dilemmas, as they work with their clientele: students, teachers, and administration.

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Nicole M. Johnson is a 2016 graduate of the University of Iowa with a BA in English with an emphasis in writing. Since graduation, she has worked on a contractual basis for Pearson Educational Services. In her role at Pearson, Nicole scores English, history, and writing assessments for grades four, five, eight, and ten.